



EASING OF RESTRICTIONS

The mask is not obligatory in the classroom

Benazet indicates that 70% of children between the ages of five and nine have already passed the coronavirus

The minister predicts little more life to the covid certificate, which is maintained by a criterion of prudence

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The government has once again lifted the use of the mask in classrooms. This was confirmed last Monday

by the Minister of Health, Joan Martínez Benazet, who detailed that the measure enters into force today and can only be applied when there is interaction between the usual group of students. As indicated by the Minister, this decision was taken, in the first instance, by the marked downward trend in the incidence of the pandemic, and on the other, by the fact that much of the school population has passed the disease. Specifically, the head of Health shared that 70% of children between the ages of five and nine have had coronavirus, and in the case of children under five, the percentage was 54%. Periodic screenings will also

Antigen tests for nightlife can be done at the same entrance as the venue

be discontinued from tomorrow. To close the school information, the Government pointed out that there were 17 classrooms in passive surveillance.

The mask is also set aside in the workplace, when there is a coincidence of regular teams, in cultural and sporting events that bring together less than 300 people indoors and up to 1,000 outdoors, and in sports training that they are always done with the same group. Another of the advances has to do with the game and recreation rooms, which will be able to reopen at the usual time, while also making access to nightclubs more flexible in response to the demands of the sector, allowing perform antigen testing on the same door. «We are making progress in returning to a more normal life», said Benazet, who said that «we are in an excellent time of the pandemic», optimistic that the coronavirus will progress to endemicity. However, he advised vulnerable pe-



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The Minister of Health, Joan Martínez Benazet.

ople to «be very careful until the wave ends».

At the same time, the minister explained that the use of the covid certificate to access most services is still maintained because «there is still a different transmission of the virus between vaccinated and unvaccinated people» and following a criterion of prudence. In any case, Benazet predicted that this document «will have a few weeks to live», and that as the incidence continues to fall, «there will come a time when it will not make sense».

ACTIVE CASES BELOW 1,000 // Regarding the health update, the head of Health stated that 137 new positives had been detected over the weekend, bringing the total number of infected people in the Principality to 37,277. The most relevant figure was that of active cases, which had decreased by 405 people and stood at 770 patients. Of these, 12 were admitted to the Hospital Nostra

An 87-year-old patient died at the hospital, becoming the 149th victim in Andorra

Senyora de Meritxell: seven on the ground floor and five in the ICU, all ventilated. A new victim of the pandemic was also mourned, an 87-year-old patient who was admitted to the hospital floor and became the 149th victim. As part of the vaccination campaign, administered 154,834 vaccines, and registered discharges reached 36,358.

To close the update, Benazet shared that 84% of the global Andorran population was immunized - counting the people who had become infected and those who had the complete vaccination schedule - and added that the reproduction rate is had been below one for days, had facilitated the reduction of the incidence. In any case, he also pointed out that during the month of January, more cases had been diagnosed than in the whole 2021. «The information is increasingly optimistic, and I am sure it will bring excitement to the citizenship», celebrated the minister. ≡

Dr. Raimon Miralbell will advise the Government on oncology

►► Dr. Raimon Miralbell, a specialist in various prestigious centers around the world in the field of oncology, radiotherapy and radioncology, will advise the Government on these matters. This was stated by the Minister of Health, Joan Martínez Benazet, who explained that initially, the relationship will last for a year. Miralbell will analyze the ser-



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vices and treatments currently offered to cancer patients in the Principality and guide future decisions by the Executive in this regard. Benazet remarked that this is a field that is making a lot of progress and the doctor «is a first-class person who will help us». «The ultimate goal is to provide better care for people with cancer», he said.

URBANISM

Mas says they are involved with the Pas and have strengthened the cleanup

Neighbors regret that the municipality has not acted until they have reported the situation to the media

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«The Encamp Municipality is very involved with Pas de la Casa». The Consul General of Encamp, Laura Mas, was so forceful in relation to the criticism that the residents of the town have made in recent weeks warning of the negligence they found in their streets. Specifically, Mas said that this year the corporation has changed the company in charge of cleaning the Pas de la Casa «precisely to improve the service», and also, in order to guarantee its effectiveness and taking into account that «we are in the middle of the high season», the coverage has intensified. «Last week we had more than 1,200 Belgians a day in the Pas de la Casa, so it is true that services have had to be strengthened», said the consul, who pointed out that «bad luck has been that perhaps, instead of everything being clean at 08.00, it was at 09.30», but remarking that «the company has a circuit and always ends up doing it». «The effort and willingness on the part of the municipality people has never been lacking», said Mas, who said that the corporation's desire is that «the Pas de la Casa be clean and enjoyable», a goal that «It is part of the strategy of quality of life for residents and good image for tourists». At the same time, the consul general illustrated the commitment to the population, stating that «in the last three years, 11 million euros have been invested in Pas de la Casa».

For their part, the neighbors contacted by this means confirmed that the last days had been threaded and the population looked better, but regretted that this action had not been carried out until they have decided to report the situation directly to the press. «It may not have to be published so that the public will be aware of what is happening and act», they criticized. In this way, the population encouraged the Encampada corporation to look for a person who would be in charge of coordinating all the services of the Pas, someone who «communicates with the municipality so that they can know what is happening». In



►► Appearance of a playground in Pas de la Casa, weeks ago.

Residents of the village are in favor of the corporation holding a village meeting soon

this sense, they referred to the local agent, a figure present in the parish of Encamp precisely to collect the demands and suggestions of the neighbors and to prevent conflicts. And in the same vein, they were also in favor of the Encamp municipality organizing a town meeting soon in order to be able to explain to them the different problems that the residents of the town face and for the corporation to give them an answer.

THE NOISE CONTINUES // The aspect that has not been resolved at the moment is what has to do with the noi-

se at night. «We have a serious problem, and we do not have nightlife areas away from the sleeping areas», said the neighbors, who complained that «no solution is being sought to ensure good coexistence between those who want to party and those who want to rest». In this way, they considered that «both the government and the municipality are closing their eyes», and called on both institutions to «get in touch to find a solution», while pointing out that same political color, they should be able to understand and collaborate. In any case, they indica-



LAURA MAS
CONSUL GENERAL OF ENCAMP
«We want Pas de la Casa to be clean and enjoyable. It is part of the quality of life strategy for residents and a good image for tourism»

ted that this situation «is not a matter of being in high season or not because there is always atmosphere in the Pas de la Casa», so supporters of «combining the two realities without eliminating low-cost tourism or groups of students».

In relation to this issue, Mas explained that the corporation is aware of this problem, although «it is not the responsibility of the Municipality of Encamp», and stressing that «the safety of the public road falls to the Ministry of the Interior». «We have asked for reinforcements from the police in Pas de la Casa», confirmed the encampada consul.

Ultimately, Mas also responded to the opinions of representatives of the tourism sector who call for an attraction in the Pas de la Casa that «is an issue that has been addressed and worked on by the Economic and Social Council», and share that given that the viewpoint of Tristaina was made by Saetde, «we are in a hurry to make the long-term concession again with a minimum of investment in the concession». In fact, the consul explained that «Saetde has been the first to show goodwill, and for example, has started offering night skiing at Pas de la Casa to encourage other activities», in addition to having evidence that the concessionaire plans to propose «other more recreational activities». ≡

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